

invention in prior to April 10, 1999 to swear behind Bukow (and Joao). However, the examiner found that these declarations contained insufficient information.

Enclosed herewith please find a second Declaration of Sue Lunsford. As can be seen from the declarations now on record, the present invention was reduced to practice at least as early as April 10, 1999. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of these claims based upon Bukow, which has a priority date of June 3, 1999, subsequent to the Applicants' reduction to practice.

CONCLUSION

If the examiner or the examiner's supervisor believes that an interview might be effective to achieve allowance of claims as soon as possible, a telephone interview is requested and can be scheduled at the soonest possible time for the examiner and supervisor.

In the event an additional fee is due for this Response, you are hereby authorized to charge such payment to Deposit Account No. 07-1897.

Respectfully submitted,

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